

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-06

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2228

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY SANAA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

DIA WASHDC

JCS WASHDC

OSD/ISA

S E C R E T CAIRO 1881

LIMDIS

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORS, PINS, MASS, EG

SUBJECT: ADVISORY ROLES OF UK AND CERTAIN OTHER COUNTRIES IN DEFENSE
SECURITY FIELD IN PERSIAN GULF STATES

REF: STATE A-74 - STATE 29563

1. AS FAR AS EMBASSY IS AWARE THERE ARE NO EGYPTIAN MILITARY
ADVISORS AT THIS TIME IN THE GULF STATES. HOWEVER, DURING THE
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PAST MONTHS WE HAVE RECEIVED INFORMATION CONCERNING DEVELOPMENT

IN THE SECURITY/MILITARY FIELD WHICH MAY BE OF SOME TANGENTIAL INTEREST IN THIS REGARD. IT IS PROVIDED IN POSSIBILITY THERE MAY BE EVENTUAL ADVISOR ROLE AS AN OUTGROWTH OF ANY ACTIVITIES DISCUSSED BELOW:

2. EGYPTIAN MILITARY REPORTEDLY HAVE TRAINED NUMBER OF YAR MILITARY IN VARIOUS SERVICE SCHOOLS IN EGYPT. TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONNEL TRAINED IS BELIEVED TO BE UNDER 50 MEN. YEMENI CHIEF OF STAFF ALI AL-DABA'I IS BELIEVED TO HAVE RECEIVED SOME TRAINING IN THIS CONNECTION.
3. EGYPT HAS ARRANGED WITH ABU DHABI FOR A JOINT TRAINING PROGRAM WHICH INVOLVES EGYPTIAN FLYING ABU DHABIAN MIRAGE AIRCRAFT AS PROFICIENCY TRAINING. IN RETURN GOE IS BELIEVED TO HAVE PROVIDED ABU DHABI WITH SEVERAL PILOTS (NUMBER UNKNOWN) TO FLY ABU DHABIAN TRANSPORT PLANES, AND POSSIBLY FIGHTER AIRCRAFT.
4. EGYPT HAS BEEN MAKING ARRANGEMENTS TO "LEASE" PERIM ISLAND FROM PDRY. DISCUSSIONS TO THIS EFFECT WERE HELD BETWEEN SADAT AND PDRY PRESIDENT SALIM RUBA'I ALI LATE LAST SUMMER WHEN ALI VISITED EGYPT. PLAN IS TO PLACE ONE/TWO THOUSAND MEN EGYPTIAN MILITARY GARRISON ON ISLAND TO CONTROL STRAITS. HOWEVER, ADEQUATE WATER FACILITIES ARE LACKING AND BARRACKS AND OTHER BUILDINGS WILL HAVE TO BE CONSTRUCTED.
5. EGYPTIANS HAVE ALSO BEEN TALKING ABOUT FORMATION OF PAN-ARAB FORCE IN OMAN SINCE LAST SUMMER. FORCE POSSIBLY WOULD INCLUDE EGYPTIANS, ABU DHABIANS, SUDANESE AND SAUDIS. MATTER IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED WITH SULTAN OF OMAN AND WITH OTHER COUNTRIES INVOLVED, AS WELL AS WITH THE SHAH OF IRAN. IN EGYPTIAN THINKING, AIM OF THIS SCHEME WOULD BE TO REPLACE IRANIANS IN DHOFAR. IN RECENT MONTHS, HOWEVER, EGYPTIANS HAVE BACKED AWAY FROM IDEA.
6. EGYPTIANS PROVIDED YAR WITH SOME SOVIET-MADE ARMS LATER LAST SUMMER, INCLUDING AIRCRAFT AND ARMOR. ARMS WERE PAID FOR BY SAUDIS. THERE IS NO INDICATION, HOWEVER, THAT EGYPTIANS PROVIDED ANY TRAINING ALONG WITH THE SALE. AN EGYPTIAN MILITARY TRAINING MISSION OF SOME THIRTY OFFICERS WAS CONTEMPLATED FOR THE YAR, BUT LATTER HAD REQUESTED DEPLOYMENT OF SUCH A MISSION BE DEFERRED FOR SIX MONTHS OR SO.

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